

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (month / year): March 2010

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

61 44

TEW.19

Town: Tewksbury

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Address: 53 Lee Street

Historic Name: George Lee House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: 1805

Source: Assessor's Records

Style/Form: Federal

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboards

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

One-car garage

Pool & Pool House

Major Alterations (with dates):

Ell with porch

Condition: Fair

Moved: no | | yes | | **Date** _____

Acreage: 0.71 Acres

Setting: Set on a relatively flat lot adjacent to a small stream near the village center.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

53 LEE STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

TEW.

___ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The house at 53 Lee Street is a two-and-a-half story Federal Era dwelling. The asymmetrical façade indicates the building may have originally been three by three bays with an extension of two bays to the west. The existing five by three bay dwelling rests on granite foundation. The walls are clad in painted wood clapboards. The side gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles. A large centrally located brick chimney pierces the ridge of the roof. The main entrance on the south features a door surround with a projecting cornice supported by wide plain pilasters. The four panel door features a band of small panes above the lower panels. The secondary entrance on the east elevation has a similar projecting cornice, but no pilasters. The door features two panels below a nine small panes of glass.

A one-and-a-half story addition with a side gable roof projects from the west elevation. A full-width enclosed porch extends across the south elevation of the ell. The shed roof of the porch and the ell are clad in asphalt shingles. A one-story shed with a side gable roof extends from the west side of the ell.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

George Lee moved to Tewksbury from Attleborough, MA between 1837-1839.¹ George established a tannery in the center of Tewksbury to the west of his house. George and his first Harriet Gould had three children. Their son William H Lee, succeeded his father in the tannery business. George Lee built a second house on the corner of Lee and East Street c 1870 (MHC# TEW.15). His wife Harriet died in 1876 and he remarried in 1878 to Matilda [Martha] Thompson. George Lee died in 1883.

William H Lee also built a home near the corner of Lee and East Streets c 1870 (MHC# TEW.17). He sold the house at 53 Lee Street and an acre of land in 1921 to Ernest & Eleanor Dewing.

Additional owners include: Ernest & Eleanor Dewing (1921-1939); Leon & Bernice Daniels (1939-1958); Donald Sheehan, a police officer & his wife Patricia (1958-2005); and Derek Sheehan (2005-2010).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Vital Record of Attleborough
- U.S. Census Records. 1790-1930.
- Directories. 1896-97, 1898-99, 1900-01, 1911-12, 1913-14, 1915-16, 1919, 1927, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1937-38, 1940-41, 1942-1943, 1949 [Ancestry], 1953, 1955, 1961, and 1967.
- Map of the Town of Tewksbury 1852. Henry F Walling. Boston, MA.
- 1865 Map of Tewkesbury with inset.
- Atlas of Middlesex County 1875. FW Beers.
- Atlas of Middlesex County 1889. Geo H Walker & Co.
- List of Residents by Streets, Ages 17 years and over, In the Town of Tewksbury Mass. As prepared by the Board of Registrars (various years 1965-)
- Valuations of the Real and Personal Estate of the Town of Tewksbury.

¹ George Lee married Harriet Gould in Attleborough in 1837. Their first child, Mary Augusta was born in Tewksbury in 1839.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

Tewksbury 53 Lee Street

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	TEW.
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